

**DIXIE TRANSPORTATION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (DTEC)**  
**MINUTES**  
**October 15, 2014**

**PRESENT**

James Eardley, County Commission  
Jon Pike, St. George Mayor  
Darren LaFevre, Toquerville Mayor  
Stan Smith, Springdale Mayor  
Wayne Peterson, Leeds Mayor  
Chris Hart, Ivins Mayor  
Kyle Gubler, LaVerkin City Administrator  
Bette Arial, St. George City Council, Senator Mike Lee's Office  
Naghi Zeenati, Utah Transportation Commission, Region 4  
Dana Meier, UDOT  
Cameron Cutler, St. George City  
Monty Thurber, St. George City  
Dave Foster, Alta Planning and Design  
Tom Mellar, Alta Planning and Design  
Myron Lee, Dixie MPO  
Ron Whitehead, Washington County  
Mike Shaw, Washington City  
Dave Glenn, Ivins City  
Levi Roberts, Five County Association of Governments  
Bill Swadley, Senator Orrin Hatch's Office  
Gary Webster, Cong. Chris Stewart's Office  
Southwest Public Health Department Representatives

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Eardley welcomed all members, and it was established that a quorum exists for voting on action items.

**MINUTES**

**A. Approval of Minutes from August 20, 2014**

**MOTION: Motion by Mayor Peterson to Approve the Minutes from the August 20, 2014, DTEC meeting. Motion seconded by Mayor Hart and carried by unanimous vote.**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Long- Range Plan Amendment (Exit 11)**

Mike Shaw requested that mile post 11 be adopted into the long range plan. He stated that due to the amount of traffic that flows through the Green Springs interchange it was identified there is a need for an additional interchange from I-15. The proposed interchange would be in between Exit 13 and Exit 10 and could be built at either Main Street or 300 E in Washington City.

Myron Lee stated that the MPO updates their plans every four years. The last update was done in 2011 and the next update is in progress and expected to be completed in 2015. He stated that Washington City has a desire to purchase properties for corridor preservation and has asked that the MPO amend the current long range plan to include this project.

**MOTION: Motion by Mayor Pike to Adopt the Long- Range Plan Amendment as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Zeenati and carried by unanimous vote.**

**b. Financial Assumptions (2015-2040 Planning)**

Mr. Lee distributed a handout: Unified Plan: Growth Rate Assumptions.

He stated the process for putting this plan together is to project how much growth Washington County will have within the next 25-30 years. This will also help anticipate the transportation needs that the growth will demand. One of the final steps of the long range plan is to insert all of the projects into a fiscally constrained plan.

The four Metropolitan Planning Organizations as well as the Utah Department of Transportation have hired Lewis, Young, Robertson and Burningham to put together a series of forecasting tools that would allow for an insight into what the financial funding potential for transportation projects would be between now and 2040.

In reference to the handout, Mr. Lee explained that all of the financial assumptions are based on the number of people living in the community as well as the number of people expected to be living in the community in future years. The handout shows the types of revenue that are received for transportation projects as well as the previous unified plan assumptions that were used in the 2011-2014 plan. It also shows the revised rates as projected by Lewis, Young, Robertson and Burningham. It was determined by using the growth rate from 1998-2013 that Washington County's projected growth rate is 5.6%.

**MOTION: Motion by Mayor Hart to Adopt the Financial Assumptions (2015-2040 Planning), as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Zeenati and carried by unanimous vote.**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **a. Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan update**

Myron Lee introduced David Foster and Tom Mellar from Alta Planning and Design who have put together a bicycle/pedestrian Powerpoint presentation.

Mr. Foster said that Alta Planning and Design takes data gathered from cyclists and pedestrians to analyze areas where there are needs in the community for biking/walking routes. The plan is to provide continuity for the bike lanes and shared use paths as some of those lanes and paths have gaps in them, making it difficult for cyclists and pedestrians to reach their desired destinations. They are also looking at areas that have crosswalk and sidewalk gaps.

Tom Mellar stated that the Utah Travel Survey was sent out to Dixie MPO residents to gather data regarding areas with barriers/gaps that needed to be addressed. The locations were rated on a severity scale from 1-3. Both the severity and the quantity of the responses were taken into consideration. Mr. Foster said their next steps are to gather remaining information, look at facility and program recommendations, identify funding sources and submit a draft and final master plan which should be completed by the end of 2014.

Commissioner Eardley inquired as to how they plan to acquire the funding for the expansion of Washington County's systems. Mr. Foster mentioned the Special Use Tax/RAP Tax may have some potential impact on funding.

Mayor Pike stated that St. George City has an interest in this plan and would like to continue working with Alta Planning and Design to help come up with a way to bridge the gaps in the bike paths in order to provide more transit options for pedestrians and cyclists.

### **b. Transportation Performance Measures**

Myron Lee distributed a handout: Executive Summary, Joint Performance Measures. He explained that the Utah Unified Planning Group has selected five areas for performance measurement and needs buy-in from the four MPOs in Utah and from UDOT. The performance measures include: Safety, State of Good Repair/ Preservation of Infrastructure, Mobility and Accessibility, Economic Vitality and Air Quality. The objective of these goals are to: Reduce the number of fatal and serious injuries on the

transportation system; Extend the useful life of our current transportation assets; Reduce emissions that adversely affect health, quality of life, and the economy; Improve access to jobs & higher education opportunities; Increase the Share of trips using non-SOV modes; and Reduce the likelihood of driving long distance daily.

Add feedback given by members

### **UDOT/FHWA BUSINESS**

#### **a. UDOT Update**

Rick Torgerson with UDOT said that the Bluff Street / Sunset Intersection is currently undergoing storm drain repair, as well as repair to a sinkhole that opened up last week. He also mentioned that the Red Hills Interchange is scheduled to be completed by the end of November.

#### **b. FHWA Update**

UDOT is currently reviewing estimates to begin milling a section of Interstate 15, for a smoother surface going northbound, nearing the new Dixie Drive interchange.

Segment 3B of the Southern Parkway will be advertised October 25, 2014 and the bid opening will be November 6, 2014.

State Route 56 has been damaged and has lost the majority of its remaining surface life due to the heavy traffic flow that was redirected from Interstate 15 during the recent flooding in Nevada. Mr. Torgerson said UDOT is currently seeking emergency relief funds from Federal Agencies to repair the road.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Washington County Public Works director Ron Whitehead pointed out that the design that is being implemented with the construction on St. George Boulevard, Bluff Street, and the interchanges on Red Hills Parkway and Snow Canyon Parkway are all coordinated to work together with the Northern Corridor to facilitate the transportation anticipated for the future.

Mr. Whitehead stated that the Northern Corridor is a vital project and without it, the traffic demand on the Boulevard, Red Hills Parkway, Diagonal and Bluff Street cannot be accommodated.

Commissioner Eardley stated that the BLM has made the progress toward the Northern Corridor difficult due to the potential impacts on the Environment. The renewal of the HCP contract is also pending and Mr. Eardley said they are going to go through with the renewal and then continue to press the Northern Corridor issue.

### **NEXT MEETING**

Next Scheduled DTEC meeting: November 19, 2014

### **ADJOURN**

Having no other business, Chairman Eardley adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Cheyenne Bentley